

Reported from North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida and Texas.

The variation in the number of columns has given rise to various species, of which Dr. Burt gives an extensive synonymy. Some of these appear under the generic name *Laternea*, a designation made to separate species with a columnar receptaculum from those in which it consists of anastomosing bars which form a large-meshed net-work, as in *Clathrus cancellatus* Tourn., an old world species of wide distribution, which has been found in the United States as far north as New York.

I have recently seen a colored drawing of a large specimen of *Clathrus columnatus* made in Florida by Mrs. A. M. Hadley of Manchester, New Hampshire, who kindly allowed a number of her admirable drawings of fungi to be exhibited at a meeting of the Boston Mycological Club. According to her observation, the species was common, and was easily discoverable in the woods by the simple method of following one's nose. — H. WEBSTER.

TWO NEW HYPERICUMS OF THE ADPRESSUM GROUP.

B. L. ROBINSON.

(Plate 37.)

FROM Mr. C. H. Bissell I have recently received an interesting *Hypericum* with the habit of *H. adpressum*, Bart. The plant is represented by two specimens, both showing flowers and early stages of the fruit as well as habit and foliage. They were found by Mr. Bissell on the Alcott Road, Southington, Connecticut. The most striking feature in which the plant differs from *H. adpressum* is the great breadth of the sepals, but examination shows other differences also, such as the number of stamens, the close punctation of the leaves, and the unintruded placentae. The stamens are much more numerous than in *H. adpressum* and are not separable into phalanges as in that species. Efforts to place this plant in any other hitherto described species have failed and it seems best to describe it as new. It is a pleasure to dedicate the species to its discoverer, one of the most alert and careful amateur botanists in New England. The plant may be characterized as follows.

HYPERICUM Bissellii. Perenne herbaceum 4-5 dm. altum erectum glaberrimum; caulibus foliosis simplicibus vel in parte superiori plus minusve ramosis basi flexuosis teretibus a cortice brunneo tectis supra ancipitibus flavescentibus: foliis oblongis integerrimis erectis vel adscendentibus sessilibus in axillis proliferis obtusiusculis 2.5-3.5 cm. longis 3-5 mm. latis uninervis supra saturate viridibus non lucentibus subtus pallidi oribus creberrime punctatis: cymis terminalibus regulariter dichotomis 8 cm. latis circa 20-floris; ramulis patente adscendentibus; bracteis ovatis, acutis 7-10 mm. longis; floribus in dichotomis solitariis erectis ad 1.5 cm. latis; pedicellis 2-4 mm. longis; sepalis valde inaequalibus, maximis late ovatis 1.3 cm. longis 8 mm. latis acuminatis subcordatis herbaceis 3-nerviis creberrime punctatis et basi pellucide glanduloso-lineatis; petalis obovato-oblongis obliquis apice rotundatis sed in latere uno cum mucrone pusillo munitis flavis 7 mm. longis; staminibus pernumerosis in phalanges non separabilibus; carpellis 3, styli ramis in maturitate profunde divisis, capsula ovoidea acuminata 7 mm. longa uniloculare, placentibus 3 parietalibus nullo modo intrusis.—Collected by C. H. Bissell at Southington, Connecticut, 30 July, 1901, no. 4025. Type in the Gray Herbarium.

On the 15th of September, 1901, Dr. G. G. Kennedy, Mr. E. F. Williams, and Mr. M. L. Fernald collected on the sandy shores of Flax Pond, at Bourne, Massachusetts, two forms of *Hypericum adpressum* so different in biological character as to merit taxonomic recognition. In the one which corresponds to the typical form of *H. adpressum*, Bart. the rootstocks are relatively slender and repent sending up two or more stems from near the tip. The cortex is not at all spongy-thickened, and the leaves are linear to narrowly lanceolate-oblong and of a bright green color. The other plant may be described as follows.

H. ADPRESSUM, var. spongiosum. Quam forma typica robustius erectum 7 cm. altum; caule solitario in parte inferiori incrassato et more Decodonis a cortice crasso spongioso tecto; foliis oblongis quam illi formae typicae latioribus et saturiore viridibus.—Collected by G. G. Kennedy, E. F. Williams, and M. L. Fernald, in marshy borders of thickets on the sandy shores of Flax Pond, Bourne, Massachusetts, 15 September, 1901. Type in the Gray Herbarium.

Both of these forms were secured in considerable quantity and comparisons have embraced some two hundred specimens. Although collected late in the season the specimens show all the floral parts even occasional petals. Careful search, however, has failed to reveal any differences in the floral organs, fruit, or seed; and as the vegetative differences although marked do not appear to be entirely constant, it seems best to treat the new form as a variety rather than a species. That it does not represent merely a stage of development in the typical plant is sufficiently shown by the fact that both forms, grow-

ing near together, fruit simultaneously. It is probable that these are ecological varieties, that is, forms responding in a marked manner to environmental influences even during the development of a single generation. This would be difficult to prove except by cultures.

The differences are well shown by the accompanying plate, kindly drawn by Mr. F. Schuyler Mathews.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE 37 — *Hypericum Bissellii*: fig. 1, habit; fig. 2, expanded calyx; fig. 3, petal; fig. 4, cross-section of the ovary. *H. adpressum*: fig. 5, part of the stem; fig. 6, branched base; fig. 7, petal; fig. 8, expanded calyx; fig. 9, cross-section of the ovary; *H. adpressum*, var. *spongiosum*; fig. 10, part of the stem; fig. 11, spongy base of stem.

AN ANOMALOUS SKULLCAP.

M. L. FERNALD.

(Plate 38.)

JUDGE J. R. CHURCHILL has called the attention of the writer to a peculiar *Scutellaria* collected by him on the beach of the Aroostook River at Fort Fairfield, Maine. The plant was gathered as *S. galericulata* and a single specimen only was taken "for locality." A plant essentially identical with Judge Churchill's Fort Fairfield material had previously been collected by the writer in river-thickets at Masardis, seventy-five miles further up the Aroostook than Fort Fairfield. This material was passed without examination as *S. lateriflora*, but subsequent study of it in connection with the Fort Fairfield plant shows it to be of more than ordinary interest.

Its showy blue-violet flowers in the axils of the large leaves, though smaller than in that species, immediately suggest *S. galericulata*; but the thin primary leaves are ovate, long-acuminate, coarsely crenate-dentate, and on slender petioles, thus closely simulating those of *S. lateriflora*. This Aroostook River plant is, therefore, essentially intermediate in its characters between the two common species of New England. Combining thus the characters of two species the plant may be of hybrid origin. Yet the independent collection of specimens at remote points and in each case merely "for locality" suggests that the plant is common throughout the Aroostook Valley, and is to be regarded as analogous to certain other New England species,—*Circaea intermedia*, *Apocynum medium*, *Lysimachia producta*,